TACTICAL HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY EQUIPMENT (THSE)

DESCRIPTION

Tactical Hydrographic Survey Equipment (THSE) provides a means for underwater charting, navigation, and hydrographic survey of selected littoral frontages. The THSE will provide tactical underwater navigation and hydrographic data into littoral penetration points in support of the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF). This will enhance mission capability while ensuring the safety of all combatant divers whether training for or conducting combat operations. Because the Navy no longer supports routine confirmatory underwater beach reconnaissance missions to the high water mark or those carried out within rivers, bays and estuaries, responsibility for the conduct of such missions now resides with deployed Marine Reconnaissance Forces.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The THSE provides state-of-the-art navigation and underwater mapping capability, integrating Global Positioning System, Doppler sonar and computer technology to provide Marine combatant dive teams with the capability to conduct tactical sub-surface hydrographic reconnaissance by electronically charting bottom conditions of the seaward approach to littoral penetration points in support of the MAGTF. Currently, combatant divers rely on 1940's era tools and techniques to conduct hydrographic surveys and provide confirmatory beach reports. This entails using a plumb line, and a writing board to log data.

PROGRAM STATUS

The THSE is in the technology development phase of the acquisition life cycle. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is providing the research and development funding and project management through fiscal year 2008. During fiscal year 2008 and fiscal year 2009, DARPA and the Marine Corps Systems Command will be conducting performance testing and evaluations to determine its ability to meet all performance requirements. THSE is planned to be procured and fielded in fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2011.

Procurement Profile:	FY2008	FY2009
Quantity:	0	0

Developer/Manufacturer:
Honeywell/TRDI